Remarks

Claims 1-21 and 24 are pending, and have been allowed.

It is believed that Claims 22-23 may have been inadvertently allowed, although they were previously canceled. Though canceled, Applicants continue to believe that Claims 22-23 should be allowable over the prior art of record, and reserves the right to prosecute these claims in a later application.

Claim 11, second line, has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended by the Examiner during the recent, brief telephone interview held on November 9, 2004, during which the Examiner requested this Rule 312 Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 9, 2004